"... Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18.

GOD'S PROMISE

Joel 2:23, 28
Zech. 10:1
Psa. 104:16a
John 14:16
John 15:26
John 16:13
John 7:38
Luke 24:49
Acts 1:8
Acts 2:4
Acts 8:17
Acts 10:44-46
Acts 19:6
James 5:7
Ezek. 47:1
Zech. 14:8
Rev. 22:1

GOD'S COMMAN

Luke 24:49
Eph. 5:18

The Church of God Evangel

CLEVELAND, TENN.

Vol. 36, No. 26 August 25, 1945

Notices

As is customary, during the Assembly Week there will be no Evangel

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FOR SALE: One 40x80 tent, with poles, stakes and all equipment. Canvas chairs, platform, and piano. All for $900, or tent alone for $500. J. P. Yancey Realty Company, 207 27th St., Newport News, Va.

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FOR SALE: Used tent, 45x70. Also, one loud speaking system, 106 or 110 volts.—Euel Roebuck, 108 Desota Ave., Rome, Ga.

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FOR SALE: Public Address System, complete. Three speakers and mike, battery and electric. Price, $150. —O. G. Lodge, 14 Grove Park Dr., Orlando, Fla.

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Little Rock, Ark., over station KGHI. Each Sunday from 10:30-11:00 p.m. G. W. Chandler, pastor.

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"Back to the Cross" program over station WRAL, Raleigh, N. C., 1240 Kc. Each Saturday from 2:00-2:30 p. m. Sponsored by E. D. Johnson, pastor, Durham, N. C.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Bishop W. L. Ford, (Colored)—New address, Box 11, Harlan, Ky., phone 671-J.

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The state convention for Kentucky and Illinois convenes September 18-28, D. V.—W. L. Ford, overseer of colored work in Kentucky and Illinois.

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I am now ready to work in the evangelistic field. Anyone wanting me for a revival, please get in touch with me.—Rev. Arlin Carroll, Summerville, Ga.

— — —

To the Church of God members living in or near Ft. Smith, Ark., will you get in touch with me at the address below? Please let me hear from you.—Evangelist Edna Frautschi, Rt. 2, Booneville, Ark.

Cheerfulness is what greases the axles of the world. Some people go through life creaking.

Men turn their faces toward hell and hope to get to heaven. Why do they not walk into the river and expect to keep dry?—*Spurgeon.*

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

Robert Hardenbrook, a soldier in France, who is in trouble.—His mother, Sister Hardenbrook, Jacksonville, Fla.

The healing of my mother's body, she has sinus, heart and kidney trouble and is almost seventy-five years old; me, I am not strong.—Mrs. Lacy P. McKinney, Stephenson, W. Va.

Me to be completely healed, I have been sick five weeks, have had pneumonia and heart trouble, but I am better.—Mrs. Mary S. Rodgers, Rt. 5, Hattiesburg, Miss.

God to undertake for a special request; my mother; my other loved ones.—A sister in Christ, Coconut Grove 33, Fla.

The healing of my baby.—Mrs. B. A. Nelson, Hilliard, Fla.

The healing of a woman who is in a very serious condition, she is very low but still says she believes she will get well; her mother who is in the hospital in an incurable condition; their families.—Mrs. Glen R. Hartman, 601 S. Madison St., Nappanee, Ind.

Our daughter's home that God will undertake for her and her husband. —Mr. and Mrs. Mac Owens, Monroe St., Passaic, New Jersey.

The healing of Rev. A. E. Heacock, a Church of God minister, who recently had a stroke of paralysis and is in a grievous condition. Unless God undertakes for him there is no hope for recovery.—Rev. A. R. Kern, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Brother Lewis to be healed of terrible spells which are deforming his body and are tormenting him so until he can hardly attend service; my husband that God will undertake for him.—Dorothy Bunton, Rt. 2, Hattiesburg, Miss.

The Lord to heal me of milk leg, I suffer so much. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. Ola Orton, Rt. 3, Box 55-D, Haleyville, Ala.

My mother to be healed, her stomach is in a bad condition and her feet and hands get numb and tingle until she can hardly get about; our home; my husband's sister to be healed of cancer.—Mrs. Hattie Goodrum, Rt. 1, Bethel Springs, Tenn.

The complete healing of my body; my baby and husband; two very special requests.—Mrs. Everett Deganice, 210 Pine St., Bonne Terre, Mo.

The healing of Mrs. J. E. Mock, Lacoochee, Fla., she has been very sick since last October. Encouragement will be appreciated.—A friend.

Me to be healed of stomach trouble, if God doesn't heal I may not be here long.—Ada Stickland.

God to undertake and heal me of heart trouble and other bodily ailments. I am a widow and my son is in Germany and I will appreciate encouragement.—Mrs. Ethel Blanch, Box 103, West Enfield, Me.

My husband in the Navy. He said he would like to receive letters from Christian people. You may get his address by writing me.—Mrs. Dorothy Bishop, Rt. 2, Temple, Ga.

The healing of my entire body.—Mrs. Cora Dillie, Avenue B, Piedmont, Ala.

My husband to be healed of asthma, bronchitis, and other trouble; our little boy who is underweight to be healed and grow stronger.—Mrs. Emma South, Rt. 1, Colt, Ark.

My daughter to be healed.—Mrs. Angeline Fanin, Box 3, Naugatuck, W. Va.

God to heal my husband and me; my boy in the Navy; my other two boys to be healed of kidney trouble.—Mrs. C. Richardson, Rt. 1, Ramhurst, Ga.

My children who need prayer very, very much.—Mrs. E. L. Thompson, 3 Buice St., Clinton, S. C.

The Lord to heal me and help me through some hard trials.—Marion Frazier, Hope, Ky.

Me to be healed of a weak and rundown condition.—Mrs. Lilla Sumner, 837 N. Texas Ave., Lakeland, Fla.

My daughter's side to be healed; my mother.—Mrs. W. F. Rains, Rt. 1, Box 342, Middlesboro, Ky.

My little girl's sore foot to be healed.—Mrs. Marsie Sullivan, Rt. 6, Louisville, Miss.

The Lord to heal my body, I have been afflicted all my life. I have always had weak nerves and cannot talk plain, but I am looking for the Lord to heal me; my sister to be healed, she is very feeble in body.—Sister Lizzie Parnell, Dunn, N. C.

Here and There in the North Central District

E. W. WILLIAMS, Assistant General Overseer

We began the year with a ministers' prayer conference in each state. The Lord met with us in a wonderful way. He set His approval upon each of these meetings. We contribute a greater part of the success in evangelism throughout the District to these special prayer conferences. The mighty presence and power of the Holy Ghost was manifested in each of these meetings in such a way that the spirit of revival and evangelism seemed to so grip the hearts of the ministers that they could hardly wait until the close of the prayer conference to get back to their churches and start revivals.

As a result of these meetings, the earnest efforts and cooperation of the ministers and churches, the reports show that many of the states in our district have broken all records of the past in SOUL-SAVING, INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP and FINANCE. Most of the states have made remarkable progress. Each of them have had an increase in most all the departments of the Church. In the ten months' check-up of this Assembly year, compared with the same period of last year, the North Central District has had a gain of 1,715 members, 3,023 saved, 1,137 sanctified, and 1,079 baptized with the Holy Ghost over last year's record. We certainly appreciate the cooperation of the state overseers in promoting the Church's interests.

STATE CONVENTIONS

Our first convention convened in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Rev. Glenn C. Pettyjohn, the provincial overseer, and his wife had left nothing undone that would make the convention a success. Though we only had one church to be represented in this province, God met with us in a wonderful way. Every service had a touch of heaven in it. The convention was blessed by having had the overseer of Michigan, Rev. Houston R. Morehead, and a number of the saints from Detroit to attend.

The mission offering for this convention was outstanding, amounting to over $200. Brother Pettyjohn has purchased a nice church building with Sunday School rooms and furniture, located in a nice residential section of Windsor. Prospects are bright for a local church there.

WISCONSIN

Our next convention was in the dairyland state of Wisconsin. Rev. Lemuell Johnson, state overseer, began the work in this state about three years ago. They now have six churches and prospects for several more, if they could only find pastors for them. Some of these churches have been organized this year.

Brother Johnson had a well-arranged program. Each service was accompanied by the power and presence of the Lord. The saints there certainly appreciate the gospel and their hearts are hungry to know more about the Church of God.

OHIO

The first half of the Buckeye state convention convened at Hamilton, Ohio, where Reverend Carl J. Hughes was the host pastor. He and his colaborers had set the stage for a great gathering. There was ample entertainment provided for all who attended.

The second half of the convention convened in Canton, Ohio, where Rev. G. W. Hodges, host pastor, with his committee, was ready to offer any help that was necessary to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable. A great spiritual feast was enjoyed at both of these places.

The Saturday evening service will long be remembered on account of the mighty presence of God, which was manifested during the time of the consecration service and the taking of the mission offering. Rev. J. H. Hughes had worked faithfully in preparing a well-arranged program, and with the cooperation of the hard-working ministers and saints of Ohio, some good reports were given. Ralph E. Williams, state superintendent of Sunday Schools and Y.P.E., prepared a good program, and reports showed that the State has made outstanding progress in this field.

ILLINOIS

The Illinois convention convened under the large tabernacle at the old campground. The convention was preceded by a camp meeting. Rev. J. T. Roberts, overseer of Alabama, was the night speaker for the first four or five nights. He seemed to be at his best and his messages were an inspiration to the people. The reports showed that there is a faithful and cooperative band of ministers, members and friends in Illinois.

Rev. E. O. Kerce is finishing three years as state overseer of Illinois. The work under his efficient administration has had a steady growth each year. Reports will show that this has been a banner year in soul-saving, missions, new church buildings, etc.

Y.P.E. and Sunday School work, according to records, has made great progress under the leadership of Rev. E. H. Miles.

KENTUCKY

When we arrived at the camp meeting and convention which convened at Somerset, Kentucky, we found the band of loyal Church of God ministers, members, and friends had gathered in the large tabernacle for this annual feast. There was good gospel preaching, singing, and shouting. Certainly it was a feast.

According to records given by W. J. Milligan, state overseer for the past four years, there has been an appreciable increase in every department of the Church. The ministers and laity of Kentucky certainly appreciate the work that Brother Milligan has done. He and his faithful companion are well loved by the people in this great state.

The first three nights, services were given to the young people. Brother Stacey, state Y.P.E. and Sunday School superintendent, was in charge, with Brother R. H. Hughes as the speaker for the first three nights. His messages were satisfying and uplifting to all. Brother Stacey has some outstanding accomplishments in his work with the Y.P.E. and Sunday School.

INDIANA

Under a large gospel tent located on one of the main thoroughfares of Indianapolis was the place where the Indiana state convention convened. The arrangement and entertainment was in the hands of the host pastors, Rev. Burger and Rev. Swenson. A fine job of welcome and entertainment was accomplished.

Rev. G. W. Lane, the state overseer, who is serving his first year in Indi-

(Continued on page 15)

RELIGION AND THE WORLD

BY THE EDITOR

Truman, Washington, and the Bible

A Washington *New York Times* correspondent, according to *Gospel Hour Beacon,* reported that, "President Truman has introduced the Bible into the ceremonies of administering the oath to administrative officials. The oath was formerly taken by the appointee with raised right hand. Monday when several called at the White House to take the oath they were asked to place their hands upon a new black leather-bound Bible. Afterward they inscribed their signatures on the flyleaf of the volume.

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The Bible

The American Bible Society has, during the past five-year period, distributed 8,213,070 copies of Bibles and Testaments, portions, etc., to the Army, Navy, and Merchant Marine. Of these, 5,500,000 were streamlined Testaments for Service men of various ranks. The Bible at present is the world's greatest seller. It is required to be read in public schools in eleven states, permitted to be read in thirty-three, and prohibited in three states. The Bible will still be young and in full dress when all its enemies are dead.

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Up Again

A report coming out of New York City, dated July 28, states that after a supposed silence of fourteen months, the Communists have reorganized. William Z. Foster, former presidential candidate of that ticket, is expected to take the leadership of the new organization. Since President Truman is a Christian it was expected for some months by noted writers that the Communists would organize again. This has happened and it is common news that the Communists fear Truman who is reported to be clearing Washington of Reds.

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Crime Increase

"WASHINGTON, July 27—The FBI today reported an 8.4 per cent upswing in crime from January to July over the same period last year. An FBI survey based on statistics from 392 cities of more than 25,000 population showed:

"A 4.3 per cent increase in murder and non-negligent homicide; 9 per cent in rape; 10 per cent in robbery; 11.3 per cent in aggravated assault; 12.1 per cent in burglary; 7:9 per cent in larceny, and 4.6 per cent in automobile theft. Negligent manslaughter declined 1.6 per cent.

"A comparison of records received from cities of more than 100,000 population for the first six months of the prewar year 1939 with the same period of 1945 showed an increase this year of 46.2 per cent in aggravated assault; 35.7 per cent in rape, and 14.5 per cent in automobile theft the report added."

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Marriage in Britain

The Methodist Conference at Nottingham is stated to have "deplored" the "rapid decline in Great Britain's moral standards, due to falling off in religious faith." Causes cited were "steady growth of drinking habit, gambling, and irregularity in sex relations." One child in eight was reported to have been born out of wedlock. One marriage in ten was reported to have broken down. It was further cited that "increase in divorce—indicated a weakened sense of the sacredness of marriage, while increased juvenile delinquency revealed a grave deficiency in the quality of home life."

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Dry Areas

According to *Watchman Examiner,* by "voters' choice" the number of "dry areas" increased from 3,333 to 4,073 as of January 1, 1945. Such areas consist of counties, cities, and lesser units.

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Motionless Speed

Vice-President Hall L. Hibbard, of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, said that within ten to fifteen years we will see startling things. He said the German V-2's hurtled at a rate of 2,500 miles an hour and sixty miles up, "and that's just the beginning at frictionless height above atmosphere; there is no reason why we won't be able to fly 10,000, yes 100,000 miles an hour." This sounds like "omnipotent power." Jesus will come in manifestation of power quick like lightning (Matt. 24:27). We haven't reached "perpetuity" and "omnipotence," however scientific discoveries and mechanical advances clearly indicate the invisible things of God. Rom. 1:20.

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Stalin and Religion

Pathfinder gives the following religious views of Stalin:

"Religion cannot be stopped. Conscience cannot be stilled. Religion is a matter of conscience and conscience is free. Worship and religion are free.

"The words are Marshal Stalin's, as quoted by England's 'Red Dean,' Dr. Hewlett Johnson, who interviewed Stalin at Moscow.

"War convinced both Russian church and state of the other's patriotism, Stalin said. In early Soviet days, he declared, the Orthodox patriarch anathematized the government and forbad the people to pay taxes. 'We were obliged to defend ourselves. The state had to act.'"

Methodists Urged To Use Women Ministers

The Methodists of Great Britain and Ireland meeting in Nottingham, July 17, are urged to make extension of full ministry to women. Ten thousand ministers are hoped for as recruits during the next five years. Throughout many countries women are being called upon to assist in the work of the church.

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The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

T. J. MEADE

"Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost," Acts 2:16.

This is a great subject and I am sure that I won't be able to go into all the deep things that this subject contains, as I feel as one of the least of God's ministers, but by the help of God I will do my best.

There are many religious people that claim they have the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and some claim that people don't get the baptism of the Holy Ghost like the apostles did. I want you to note carefully this text. What caused the Apostle Peter to speak these words: "But ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost"? If you will look at Acts 1:5 you will see the words of the Lord. Now that the baptism in the Holy Ghost is a New Testament teaching and is for the church today, all people will be seen in the following scripture. Please read every one of them carefully and prayerfully: Matt. 3:11; Luke 3:16; Mark 1:8; St. John 1:33.

Someone may say it was just for the twelve apostles and the gospel never started until after Pentecost, but wait, let's look at the Bible—Mark 1:1, the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ; also Luke 16:16, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it."

The baptism of the Holy Ghost is also called the anointing. Jesus was the first to receive this anointing, Luke 3:21; 4:1; Acts 10:38; Hebrews 1:9. Jesus has left us an example and we should follow His steps. 1 Peter 2:21. The church at Corinth received this anointing. 2 Cor. 1:21, 22. See 1 John 2:27, also verse 20.

Why we need the baptism of the Holy Ghost. First, because it is the will of God, Eph. 5:17, 18. Second, because it is God's commandment. John 14:15; Acts 1:4, 5. Third, it is God's promise. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4; 2:38, 39. Fourth, it gives power for service. Acts 1:8. Fifth, it is the anointing that makes us kings and priests. Rev. 5:10; 20:6. The Holy Ghost is called the Comforter. Let us look at St. John 14:16. Jesus said, "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter." In the 26th verse He tells us that the Comforter is the Holy Ghost. The 15th chapter, 26th verse, says the Comforter will testify. Some one may say that He was just talking to the twelve apostles. Let us look at the first to the third verses: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: .... I go to prepare a place for you."

Now I want to stress the pronoun YOU. If that Comforter which is the Holy Ghost was just for the apostles then the place that Jesus has gone to prepare would be just for the apostles. But why not accept the Holy Ghost as well as the place Jesus has gone to prepare?

You may ask anyone if he believes the place that Jesus went to prepare is for all Christians or Christian people and he will tell you right now, "Yes." But ask him if he believes the Holy Ghost is for every one and he will hesitate to tell you yes.

Now back to the text: "Then remembered I the word of the Lord." Notice the verse preceding this verse, 15: "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord." Some one said the Holy Ghost ended after Pentecost, or the apostles' days "whether there be tongues they shall cease," etc. Speaking with tongues is the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost, Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-6. Speaking with tongues is the Word of the Lord. See Mark 16:17; Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-6. When did the Word of the Lord pass away? See Matt. 24:35. This says, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Peter said, "Then remembered I the Word of the Lord." See 1 Peter 1:25. "The Word of the Lord endureth forever." Jesus said the Holy Ghost may abide with you forever, St John 14:16, 17.

We are living in the Holy Ghost dispensation, and as He is the One that is doing the office work and is reproving or convincing the world of sin and of righteousness and judgment, he will therefore carry on this work until the completion of this age.

I want to call your attention again to the anointing. 1 John 2:27. This was the year of 90 A. D. that John was admonishing these saints. "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." This anointing is the baptism of the Holy Ghost. See St. John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things." If the anointing teacheth you all things and the Holy Ghost teachest you all things, surely the anointing is the baptism of the Holy Ghost. We hear much said about the qualifying for the bride of Christ. I think there is something here that will pay each individual to look into. 1 Peter 1:9 says we are a royal priesthood. Rev. 5:10 says we are kings and priests. Rev. 20:6 says we shall be priests. Now in the qualifications for a priest, one outstanding feature is he must be anointed, and if the anointing represents the baptism of the Holy Ghost, then to be a priest we must have this baptism. Also, if we are to be kings we must be anointed. The apostle Peter said the Holy Ghost is for you and your children, and all afar off. Acts 2:38, 39. He also said He is given to them that will obey. Acts 5:32. Truly Jesus is calling to the thirsty, "Come and drink." John 7:38. If we refuse the call, what then? Acts 3:22. If you don't have this blessing, will you seek Him earnestly? The Lord is soon coming. Get ready. May God richly bless each one who reads this.

Very Successful Revival

LAKE WALES, Fla.—We had a very successful four weeks' revival. Brother Colon T. Dunn was the evangelist. The visible results were fifty saved, twenty-seven sanctified, nineteen filled with the Holy Ghost, and twenty-two added to the church. The Lord's supper and feet washing were observed during the meeting.—Hugh L. Lyle, clerk.

Paul's Last Letter

MRS. RUTH STARNES

2 Tim. 4:6-18

Verse 6, *"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand."*

Paul was a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city of Cilicia. He was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, the great doctor of Jewish law, so he was well learned in the law. Paul was a Pharisee. This was a religious sect of people who studied the law and added many oral laws to the written law, thus making them the more burdensome. Paul was zealous for God in the law of Moses, but he persecuted the Christians until God struck him down with the bright light from heaven, on the road to Damascus. Paul realized at once that this was God, so he said, "Lord, what shall I do?" Jesus told him to go on into the city and it would be told him there what to do. Paul was without sight and did neither eat nor drink for three days. Then Ananias was sent to Paul and when he had laid his hands on him he received his sight. Immediately after this Paul preached Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

Paul shows us what he had to boast of as a Jew and a Pharisee. Phil. 3:4, ".... If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee." He had as much to boast of as any Jew, yet he said, "What things were counted gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ." These things were insufficient to enrich him in Christ, but they were enough to ruin him if he trusted in them in opposition to Christ.

Our scripture lesson is Paul's dying testimony to young Timothy. Paul is here at Rome. The Holy Ghost witnessed in every city that bonds and afflictions did abide him. Paul was an old soldier of Jesus Christ and Timothy was but newly enlisted. So this message was a great comfort to the young evangelist. The courage and comfort of dying saints, especially dying martyrs, is always a great confirmation of the truth of Christian religion and a great encouragement to living saints and ministers in their works.

Paul exhorts Timothy to preach the Word. It is not his own fancies and notions he is to preach, but the plain Word of God. He is to call upon those under his charge to repent and believe the gospel. He is to preach whether in season or out of season. Timothy is urged to reprove them, that is, to convince people of the evil and danger of their wicked ways. He is to rebuke them with authority, in Christ's name. He is to exhort them with authority, in Christ's name. He is to exhort them with all longsuffering of doctrine. In other words, persuade them to hold on, to endure to the end, caution them with patience, teach them the truth by instilling good principles in them.

Paul tells Timothy to do the work of an evangelist. The office of the evangelists was, as the apostles' deputies, to water the churches the apostles had planted, until they were settled under a standing ministry. This was a great work that was entrusted Timothy, therefore he must make full proof of his ministry. He was not to be discouraged even though he might meet with difficulties and hardships in his work. He was to execute his office with patience, watching in all things, so as not to let an opportunity of any kind pass by. He was to watch over the souls in his care, guide, and direct them.

The reason this charge needed to be enforced was because heresies and errors were likely to creep into the church, corrupting the minds of many professing Christians. There would be some, Paul said, who would not endure sound doctrine. Now while the fields are white, Timothy is encouraged to be busy planting the truth, so when the storms do come the Christians may be established.

There are people who grow weary of the truth and turn aside to false teachers, accepting fables instead of the truth of God's Word. These are after their own lust, seeking natural, fleshly things instead of the sound doctrine of Christ. But the Word of God will stand even when heaven and earth pass away. Let this be an example to us to have open hearts to receive God's Word in preference to man's ideas and creeds.

There is always something special about the last words of loved ones. Sometimes they reveal their inner character and life. These last words of Paul reveal his great character and show the results of his work for God. We are not left to faintly guess what he means, for there is a telling ring to his voice, his mind is clear, his words are emphatic, and they speak forth volumes of truth. Let us lend our ear to catch the words of this last letter of Paul.

We see here a perfect resignation. "I am now ready to be offered." He is resigned to God's will, satisfied with whatever comes his way. He had done the work of his day. He could look back upon his experience with a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction. Paul was like someone packed up and ready to step on board the ship that would carry him to a better country. He calls dying his departure. Death to a good man is merely his release from the imprisonment of this world and his removal into a far better one. At one time we see Paul in a strait about this. Phil. 1:23, 24, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart and to be with Christ which is far better. Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you." Paul, knowing he is soon to depart, is perfectly willing to go, waiting patiently until the very minute came.

There is an assured success in his letter. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." He was confident that his life and testimony, as a servant of God, had been no failure, but that it had been successful. When laborers are removed out of their work, it should cause those left behind to be more diligent. As a warrior he had fought a good fight. The life of a Christian is a warfare. We are continually warring against the enemy of our souls and his wicked works. There is a conflict with corruption, temptation, and the opposition of the powers of darkness. It is a fight of faith and we are supplied with spiritual weapons. We, like Paul, can be assured of success if we keep faith in God, stay in unity with Him, and trust Him to the end.

As a racer, Paul had abode in the course and honorably finished the race. Yes, we are in a race to heaven.

We must run many times, but run patiently. Heb. 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Our race is marked out by the Word of God and by the examples of the faithful servants of God.

As one who had been entrusted with the Word, Paul had kept the faith. He had kept the doctrines of the gospel, protected them, and guarded them with his life. He said on one occasion, "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

Paul has a joyful hope before him. "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." Although Nero had a sword laid up for Paul, Christ, as the righteous judge, had a crown laid up for him. The Lord rightfully bestows honor upon those that faithfully serve Him. James 1:12, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." Christ will reward us for our labors here. Paul could see beyond Nero's block to his reward that was awaiting him. Christ is the object and ground of the believer's hope. As a forerunner of His people, Christ has gone within the vail to prepare a place for those that trust Him.

Paul had some painful experiences. Surely it was with a grieved heart that the aged apostle told of Demas, who had forsaken him for the love of the world. Today, even as in Paul's day, we see people turn their backs on God for the worldly things of this life. We know it is impossible to serve God if the love for the world is in our hearts. A divided heart will not function correctly. Paul also mentions Alexander the coppersmith, who had done him much evil.

In speaking of other sufferings, Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 11:24, 25, "Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep." Then he suffered hunger, thirst, and in cold and nakedness. He said no one stood with him in his first trial. This seems strange, when there were so many Christians at Rome, but perhaps they were afraid of suffering with Paul as they left him. We see that Paul had trials from his friends as well as opposition from his enemies. This same thing is true in the lives of many today.

In this letter we see Paul's forgiving love. "I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge." Jesus left us this example of forgiveness for when He was hanging on the cross He prayed for His enemies. Many times a child of God may be forced to stand alone in the midst of suffering and hardships, yet he is not alone for God is with him. Jesus said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." To overcome the evil actions of others with good, requires the grace of God, yet He says, "My grace is sufficient." There is all we need in Him. Jesus teaches us to love our enemies, to bless them that curse us, to do good to those that hate us and to pray for those that despitefully use us, that we may be the children of God.

In this testimony from Paul we see a divine faithfulness. "Notwithstanding, the Lord stood with me and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear..." This proves the unfailing faithfulness of our God and Savior. The Lord gave Paul strength to preach the gospel at the bar as well as in the pulpit. If God is for us, He will more than make up for the absence of our friends. Prov. 2:8, "He keepeth the paths of judgment and preserveth the way of his saints." In giving His commission to the disciples, Jesus said, "Lo, I am with you alway." Even though our friends stand by our bed until the breath leaves our body, this is as far as they can go; but Jesus can go all the way. Thank God, we will not be called upon to endure any hardships without the presence of God. He does not lead us anywhere that He hasn't already gone.

We see the unfailing confidence that Paul had in God, by his last words, "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom. To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." There is no shadow of a doubt or tremor of fear in this noble man's heart, as to his present safety and his eternal destiny. In 2 Tim. 1:12 Paul says, "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Praise the Lord! Paul was bold in his testimony for Christ, because of what Christ had done for him. As the Great Physician, Christ had healed Paul's soul. As the Good Shepherd, Christ had supplied his soul's needs. As the Pilot of life, Christ had directed Paul's course of life.

Paul knew Christ by his personal meeting on the Damascus road, by his communion with Christ, and by his experiences as a Christian. Paul had a victorious past, a peaceful present, and a blissful future. Let each of us profit by the dying testimony of this precious saint of God. God bless each reader.

God Has Saved All My Children

TICE, Fla.—In 1941 God wonderfully healed me of a broken shoulder which was caused from an automobile accident. Not so long ago I took deathly sick, being poisoned by something I ate, but God heard and answered prayer and healed me instantly. I will never be able to thank and praise Him enough for the way He has blessed me. I thank Him above everything for saving every one of my children. I have four, and their companions are saved too. Some are making preachers, while others are good workers in the church. I earnestly prayed for twenty years before the first one was saved and in five years all were saved. The devil tried to discourage me, but God can save to the uttermost parts of the world.—Mrs. T. W. Granger, Box 748.

Healed of Serious Ailment

HEROD, Ill.—I praise God for healing me of a serious ailment. The Lord wonderfully blessed me and my mother after requesting prayer through the Evangel. I want prayer that God will lead someone here to hold a revival. I never have the privilege of going to church, but Jesus is with me at home. Praise His name!—Mrs. Gradie Ozee.

I Have Victory

PATTERSON, Va.—I have victory in my soul. My life has been so much different since I received the blessed Holy Ghost. I tried to live a saved life without the Holy Ghost, but could not. The Lord made me real hungry for Him until I could hardly eat or sleep. God heard my cry and filled me with the Holy Ghost, the most wonderful experience I ever had in my life.—Easter Gullett.

Churches

By J. D. BRIGHT
Assistant General Overseer

The word Ephesus means to *let go* or *relax*. Therefore, it is not at all surprising that the Lord Jesus filed the complaint, "Thou hast left thy first love," against the Ephesian church, for the church had started coasting, free wheeling, if you please, and, of course, this means that it was going downhill—yes, going down!

But, the very fact that they were going down gives them credit for having been up, up on the very top of these credits: First, they were patient; second, they were workers—yea, laborers; third, had nothing in common with evildoers; fourth, had the courage to expose and denounce those making claims to apostleship; fifth, had been burden-bearers, responsible, trustworthy; sixth, they were of the same attitude of Christ toward the Nicolaitans—hated their deeds. (The Nicolaitans believed that the ministers constituted a holy order that should be separated from the laity, somewhat like the priestly order under the Levitical laws.) Christ and His Church are still of the same attitude of the Ephesian church. There's no place for lords over God's heritage. Seventh, they had not fainted while meriting all these compliments. What a record and how many churches fall far beneath it!

"Nevertheless," says Christ, "I have somewhat against you because thou hast left thy first love."

Yes, they had *relaxed* to take inventory of their accomplishments, battles fought, victories won, and had become "at ease in Zion." It had become the *"used to"* type of church—pastor and members alike. They had *relaxed* and intentionally or unintentionally, knowingly or ignorantly, at the same time, had *"let go"* of love! This default was so enormous and tragic as to hurl all the accomplishments of the church far, far to the background.

I just wonder how many of the near 400,000 local churches of the 256 denominations in the U.S.A. are under the same divine indictment. Then, if we were in position to correctly register the love for God, neighbors and the church in the hearts of the 500,000,000 professed Christians throughout the world, don't you fear that the check up would show *low love pressure?*

Now coming to our own denomination with its 100,000 members, including 900 bishops, 599 deacons, and 2,200 evangelists, the question is, What is our love rating? In other words, how many of us Church of God ministers and members have first love? It must be normal or subnormal, high or low, first, second, third, lukewarm, or something! We must not forget that, after all, our status is by no means a secret. For whether we be laymen, exhorters, deacons, teachers, Y.P.E. leaders, L.W.W.B. presidents, evangelists, pastors, district pastors, state overseers, departmental executives or supervisors, or general officials, keep in mind that there is a public thermometer over our lives and works that somehow the people read or hear about it all over the world.

If "first (divine) love" fills and motivates our hearts, it is of God, for God is love, the first love. He gave to the world the first expression of love, "His only begotten Son." Jesus became first love for and to the Church. "Christ loved the church and gave himself for it."

"First (divine) love" is received when we actually receive Christ Jesus. We can best manifest and demonstrate that love as members of His representative body, "the Church of God." By *"first love"* the local church succeeds; a district, a state makes progress; and as a consequence, the general Church expands and goes forward, gaining favor with God and man.

Since we earnestly desire that this be the good fortune of the Church of God, as a safeguard against indifference and becoming anemic, subject ourselves to this serious indictment "Thou hast left thy first love," let us ever keep this noted logbook of a notable missionary sailor before us:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

On the Gaining Side

ENTERPRISE, Ala.—Here we are in South Alabama working and doing things for the upbuilding of God's cause and kingdom. God has been in our midst these eight months. Our Sunday School has doubled, also our Y. P. E. The church in general is on the gaining side; it paid off a small indebtedness, bought a nice large heater for the church, also a nice piano, painted the church inside and is having new pews made for the church. We also put out some fruit trees on the parsonage ground, shrubbery and flowers around the church and parsonage, put sheet rock on wall in parsonage and bought a bed for the parsonage, making about $500 worth of improvements.

We have had two good revivals, with thirteen added to the church. Praise God for the faithful few and the many good friends of our church here. Any ministers and friends passing this way will find the church located at 501 S. Bell St., one block off Geneva Highway. We covet your prayers for the success of our work here.—E. B. Carter, pastor.

CHRIST THE SAVIOR FOR THE HEATHEN

Missions • Missionaries

M. P. CROSS, Executive Mission Secretary.

International Christian Brotherhood
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL NATIONS

NEWS FROM SOUTH INDIA

Beloved Co-workers,

"Thanks be unto God who always causeth us to triumph in Christ."

Since it has been some time since we have written a letter for the Evangel, we have much to tell you. Many of you will probably know by now that our son George is in the United States for a much-needed rest, having been in India for over eighteen years without a furlough. We hope you will meet him while he is there. We praise the Lord for the added strength He is giving us for extra duties, especially to Brother Cook.

At the time the word came that George could leave India, meetings were already arranged in Calicut and Brother Cook felt that he must go as he had promised, so although it was very hard to do so, he said, "Good-bye," to George two days before George had to leave us and went to Calicut. The Lord confirmed that this was His will by greatly blessing in the meetings. The saints were much encouraged by his messages and some outsiders were stirred. On the last Sunday, at the Lord's supper, there was a real downpour of blessing and great liberty in the Spirit.

We were in Ootacamund, one of our hill stations, for part of the hot season. Since we could not get a house, we had not been there for two years, but we were glad to see that the work had been growing even though we have not had just the workers we have wanted to help there.

A woman who was demon-possessed has been completely delivered in the name of Jesus. A man who was demon-possessed, living in a village about six miles from Ootacamund, came to our hall for prayer, about a year ago. Since he did not get full deliverance, he sometimes came to our hall for several days at a time for prayer. From time to time God has shown him things which he has had to make right. He is much better than he was before, but is attacked by the enemy at times; we ask you to pray especially for his full deliverance. As a result of what God has done for him, his wife, her brother, her mother, and others have been saved and nine have been baptized from that village. During a meeting in their home this man's wife received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

One sister in our church in Ootacamund has been seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit for some time and she finally received Him while alone in her own home. She is so happy in the Lord and spends much time either praying or reading her Bible. Her husband, who is a policeman, is a member of our church, but has not time to regularly attend the services.

We had a very blessed convention while in Ootacamund in the Y.M.C.A. lecture hall and the attendance was good. Our people would march from the hall singing along the way or calling out verses. The Word of God was given out under the anointing of the Holy Spirit and we believe saints who attended were built up in the faith.

In April Brother Cook was in Madras for some special meetings and was encouraged by the results and the interest shown there. We have recently been able to secure a hall for meetings in a different locality than where we have been working and here we have a good Sunday School. Brother Cook was so enthusiastic over this Sunday School when he saw over one hundred Hindu children present the Sunday he was there. In these we see some of the future pillars of the church, if they are well trained in the Word of God. I quote from a letter from a lay worker in Madras who takes great interest in the work, a letter written shortly before Brother Cook was in Madras.

We are having an enviable Sunday School in our new hall. Last Sunday the attendance was seventy-six, mostly Hindu students. I had a very jolly time with those sweet little things. I am unable to take a leading part in it owing to my railway duties. Anyhow the school mistress of whom I had written to you, takes real interest. It is because of her influence as the head mistress of one of the schools, that most of her students regularly attend the Sunday School. We are planning to have it organized in such a way as to top the list of Church of God Sunday Schools in India. We are also having another Sunday School at Mr. Paul's house.

In the midst of darkening clouds around us, we praise the Lord for the bright light of the gospel of Christ and for open doors still to work for Him in this land. Pray for us.—Yours for lost souls, Bertha N. Cook.

Pray for Release of Missionary

I have been corresponding with the British Embassy concerning the release of our Brother Herman Lauster, who is our missionary to Germany and who is now being held as a German prisoner of war in England. Following is my latest letter from the British Embassy from which you will see that we are going to have to pray much for God to work the matter out.

"Dear Mr. Cross:

"With reference to your letter of the 5th of July, I have noted your comment regarding Mr. Lauster's personal convictions.

"As you are aware, however, Mr. Lauster is held as a German prisoner of war, and at the present time no provisions exist for the release of any category of German prisoner of war from the custody in the United Kingdom. I am afraid, therefore, that there are no steps which could be taken looking towards his release."

We highly appreciate the desires of the British people to give justice to all concerned, but, of course, you will understand that all Germans who are taken as prisoners of war will now claim that they were never in favor of Nazism. There is no question at all that the British will be happy to release Brother Lauster as soon as they are convinced that he is not, and has never been, a Nazi, but that he was drafted into the service against his will. Please join us in prayer that the Lord will work this thing out.

You will remember that when he was held a prisoner in the concentra-

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REVIVALS

For three weeks here in Canton, Ohio, we really invaded enemy territory. Talk about invading the Japanese homeland, we have a beachhead here in Canton that the devil will long remember. We have had a glorious three-week revival with Rev. Fred Jernigan as evangelist. The Lord blessed us through the good messages he brought us from night to night.

This revival was held especially in the interest of the young people of our church and community and we made a desperate effort to rescue them from the prison house of sin and did rescue a goodly number. Sometimes the crowd wasn't large but the glory of God was great. One night about six were saved and four received the Holy Ghost. Another night three received the Holy Ghost. As near as we could count, there were twenty-six saved, twenty sanctified, and thirteen filled with the Holy Ghost, twelve of these filled were young people, and they're really ready to work for God. Everyone is so happy we hardly know how to praise God enough for the way He blessed in this revival. There were eight baptized in water and three added to the church.

One big feature along with our revival was the daily vacation Bible school directed by Sister Ella Bressler. There was an enrollment of one hundred eighty-five and there were twenty-one different denominations represented. The children had a wonderful time and presented a very interesting program on Saturday, July 28. We feel that our church was greatly helped and blessed by this school.

We're thankful for the way in which all the people in Canton church cooperated with our good pastor, Brother Hodges, Brother Jernigan, and Sister Bressler. I still say we wrested some mighty material from the devil; we helped to win young men and women that I feel sure are going to fill a great place in God's vineyard. We're looking forward to great and mighty things in the future. Remember us in prayer, that we may rise and shine for Christ always. —Reporter, Gladys Warden.

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We have just closed a revival at Lost Creek with Johnnie Cross, pastor at West Union, W. Va., in charge. The Lord wonderfully blessed; three were saved and four sanctified. We had large crowds every night with some praying for the Holy Ghost. The Lord blessed in a mighty way and several were healed. The church was greatly revived and two added to the church. Rev. Charles Bishop is pastor at Lost Creek.—Johnnie Cross, Toll Gate, W. Va.

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MORRISTOWN, Tenn.—We had a wonderful revival with Brother C. L. Griffith doing the preaching. God wonderfully blessed and it was wonderful how he preached under the anointing power of the Holy Ghost. The entire church has been wonderfully blessed. Fourteen were saved, three sanctified, three filled with the Holy Ghost, and one added to the church.

We have taken seven in the church since our revival and God is still blessing. We have the fire still burning in our souls and the church is still growing in power.

We had an all-night service Saturday night, June 30, and I truly believe this was the best and most powerful meeting since I have been in Tennessee.—B. O. Cantrell.

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GAINESVILLE, Ga.—We praise God for the good revival closed June 24, with Sister Ann Brown, of Atlanta, Ga., as evangelist. We had old-time gospel preaching with power from on high. Seventeen were saved, nine sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost, six added to the church, and four baptized in water, and the church was revived. We thank God for good preachers like Sister Brown and invite her back.—H. R. Appling, pastor, Rt. 1.

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AMELIA, Va.—The Lord has done lots for us, whereof we are glad. Our revival closed May 13 which ran for two weeks. Brother David Wilburne, of Hopewell, Va., was the evangelist. The Lord blessed in a great way. Three were saved, four sanctified, two filled with the Holy Ghost, two added to the church, and eight baptized in water.

Brother Lewis McKay, our pastor, is doing a great work for our church and we love him and his family. Pray for us here at Amelia, that we will be workers for the Master.—Ernestine Lloyd, clerk, Rt. 1, Box 248.

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BREWSTERTOWN, Tenn.—We surely thank God for the wonderful revival that has just closed, Brother Floyd Burrell, of Alabama, doing the preaching. Fourteen were saved, four sanctified, thirteen added to the church, and ten baptized in water.—Herbert Giles, pastor, 3410 Dodson Ave., Chattanooga 6, Tenn.

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CULBERSON, N. C.—We had a revival here the first three weeks in May, conducted by Brother W. H. Speed who did some powerful preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. One was saved and one filled with the Holy Ghost. Though he had to go overseas immediately after the revival closed, he writes he is still shouting the victory and has no fear "what man shall do unto him," Heb. 13:6.

We are still praising God for that good revival and for His goodness to us. We cannot express our appreciation for our beloved pastor, Brother Glover P. Ledford, and we are expecting the Lord to do greater things yet at Culberson. "Though it tarry, wait for it because it will surely come, it will not tarry," Heb. 2:3. We covet the prayers of all. —E. J., clerk.

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Brother R. S. Sifford was our evangelist in an old-fashioned two weeks' meeting here at Mountain View Church of God in April. Many were blessed, fourteen converted, four sanctified and three filled with the Holy Ghost. The church was set in order with fourteen members. We have a good pastor, Brother Hubert Tatum. —Dovie Donaldson, clerk, Rt. 6, Maryville, Tenn.

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WEST UNION, W. Va.—A week's revival was held at the Church of God at West Union by Evangelist Lillie Flanagan. Three were saved, two sanctified, and one filled with the Holy Ghost.—Johnnie Cross, pastor, Toll Gate, W. Va.

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ALBEMARLE, N. C.—Mrs. B. J. Hillhouse, of Lakeland, Fla., conducted a two weeks' revival in which forty-five were saved, forty sanctified, thirty-three filled with the Holy Ghost and thirty-seven added to the church, which almost doubled the membership. Sister Hillhouse is a great evan-

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Beautiful New Church in Knoxville, Tennessee

The above church building is now complete and by the time you get this Evangel it will have been dedicated. The church is located on Speedway Circle in Knoxville, Tennessee. It is a very beautiful building with very attractive faced brick, art-glass windows, hardwood floors, factory-built pews, elevated choir, and the baptistry is built in back of the choir. It has a pastor's study, six nice Sunday School rooms, a ladies' lounge, and hot-air furnace. It is 40x65, has a full-sized basement, and was built at a cost of $17,000. It is said by many that this is the most beautiful church in East Knoxville. Brother Whittington found about ten members when he was first appointed to this pastorate five months ago, but there are now about thirty-five active members. This little congregation has raised about $8,000 cash in five months, for the new building. When you attend the Assembly, drop by and see it. Brother Whittington is one of the most successful builders in the Church of God. His church voted solid for him to return as pastor for the ensuing year.—U. D. Tidwell, state overseer.

All of God's people need vision.

REVIVAL

(Continued from page 10)

gelist and singer.

We are in a building program here; have already remodeled the auditorium, built six Sunday School rooms in the basement and a study for the pastor. The outside is being brick veneered.—Mrs. Levi Morton.

TRYON, N. C.—A two weeks' revival recently closed conducted by Rev. J. W. Cannon, of Asheville, N. C. It was a great success. Fifteen were saved, eleven sanctified, five filled with the Holy Ghost, and five added to the church. One woman was healed of a goitre. The crowds were large. God is blessing and we thank Him for it.—Dorris Moss.

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MEYERSDALE, Pa.—We thank the Lord for the way He blessed in our recent revival conducted by Brother Russell Tiday, of Manns Choice, Pa., who in the past two years has been a student in Bible School

(Continued on page 14)

Reports from the Field

Stonefield, Miss., District Convention

One of the greatest conventions we have ever had convened April 27-29 at the Stonefield Church of God. Rev. W. M. Stallings, state overseer of Mississippi, was in charge.

The convention opened with good spiritual songs, which were thoroughly enjoyed. Special numbers were rendered by Brother and Sister Eugene R. Anderson, Sister McGaugh, Sister Louise Hollaway, Brother Stedman, Brother and Sister Newton. After the welcome address and responses, special prayer was offered for our national leaders and our boys in the armed forces. The evening message, delivered by Brother Stallings, was very inspiring and greatly enjoyed.

We met Saturday afternoon with songs and prayer. After this the state overseer conducted a ministers' and church workers' council in which questions were answered and instructions given to the ministry. Evangelism was the chief topic of discussion and definite plans arranged to immediately go into new fields. In the evening service an old-time testimony meeting was conducted by Maude Ellen Hight, followed by an evangelistic message by Brother James D. Hodges, pastor of Friendship church.

Sunday morning Brother Sam B. Webb, pastor at Goodwill church, delivered a wonderful sermon. Again special singing was enjoyed, then Brother Stallings brought the message. This message was a real blessing to us all. At the close of his message an offering for missions was taken amounting to $711.

At the noon hour a most bountiful dinner was spread by the Stonefield people. At two-thirty we went back in the church for an open forum service, in which all took part with singing, prayers, testimonies, and short talks. We were glad to have Brother Bascom Stanley and Brother Bruce Everett, of the Delta district, and enjoyed their talks.

The success of the convention was largely due to the fact that our district overseer, Rev. E. L. Newton, so ably plans his work and works his plan, with the complete cooperation of his entire district. Brother Newton and his church spared no means in entertaining and assisting in any way they could to make everyone feel welcome and enjoy the convention, which closed with the good old song "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Just a month previous to this our Sunday School and Y.P.E. convention met at the Goodwill church. This was another outstanding convention. God met with us in a wonderful way. Our Sunday morning offering for the orphans was $315.—Maude Ellen Hight, Coffeeville, Miss.

Ranger, Texas, District Convention

The Ranger district convention opened March 30 at Ranger, Tex., with district pastor, Rev. Otha Anderson, in charge. We had seventeen ministers present the first night and the Lord did bless our souls. Many good special songs were rendered. Rev. G. M. Bloomingdale, of Weatherford, brought a wonderful message.

Saturday morning Rev. C. E. Neal, of Mineral Wells, gave a good message and in the afternoon a testimony service was enjoyed by all. After a good devotional Saturday evening special songs were rendered by Ranger Girls' Quartet, Rev. and Sister Cook, Rev. and Sister Curtis Drake, and Rev. and Sister J. E. Green, Sister Anderson and Sister Rains. Our state overseer, Rev. V. B. Rains, gave a report of the work in the State. It made us feel happy and encouraged in the way that souls are being blessed and in the progress in the building program over the State. Brother Rains preached, after which a mission offering of $532.11 was given.

We met Sunday morning in fellowship and love. Pvt. Falkner, of Camp Barkeley (Abilene), gave a short talk. Brother Falkner was set forth for the ministry in the Church of God during this convention. This service was a very unusual one. We had plans for each church to represent its Willing Workers' Band and have a sermon by Rev. O. E. Wright, of Stephenville. The first church to represent its Willing Workers was the newest church on our district—Abilene. All fall and winter they have been worshipping under a tent and they have recently purchased a lot in a good location on which they intend to build. When their report was finished Sister Smith, of Weatherford, expressed her desire to give $25 on that new building. That statement seemed to arouse the attention of every one and, of course, it caused a shout from the Abilene pastor, Brother J. T. Hickman. The district pastor, the overseer, and other ministers began to express their desire to give. The giving spirit seemed to be catching, for all over the house they began to give. Praise the Lord. No one asked for this offering; they just gave us opportunity to give. The result of this was a cash offering of $274.51 and pledges amounting to $398. By that time we didn't need any preaching so we left the convention feeling we had obeyed the Lord and with the anticipation of seeing and hearing of many souls being saved at a new church in Abilene, Tex.—Miss Ruth Messimer, Box 35, Strawn, Tex.

E. Rainelle, W. Va. Dist. Convention

The district convention of the East Rainelle district convened at East Rainelle April 27-29. Rev. J. K. DeGolyer, district overser, and Rev. J. L. Goins, esteemed state overseer, were in charge of this great convention. Special music and singing was rendered throughout the convention by the Beckley trio, Miss Marie Honaker and brother, Miss Dantie Pittman, Miss Ann Reynolds, of Garrison, Brother Smith and children, of Marfrance, Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Burton, Mrs. Lovie Worley and Wilda Shafer, of Kessler, and the East Rainelle quartet, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Worley and Rev. and Mrs. DeGolyer.

Friday evening we were honored with a welcome address by the city mayor, Honorable C. E. Vance. Responses were given by the deacon of the local church, J. E. Wiseman, Mrs. F. S. Spencer, and Rev. R. F. Kirkland, pastor of Shrewsbury. A message was delivered by Rev. C. B. Burton, pastor of Marfrance, and God's presence was felt and continued through the following message by the state overseer. How we enjoyed every word spoken by this wonderful man of God!

Saturday morning, after a good song feast, another wonderful mesage by Rev. H. B. Jenkins, pastor of LaFrank, was followed by a good testimony service. At the afternoon serv-

ice a message was delivered under the anointing of the Holy Ghost by Rev. R. F. Kirkland. Following this feast we were privileged to enjoy an address by Sister J. L. Goins, state L.W.W.B. president. Her message was an inspiration to all. Saturday night a healing service was conducted. Many were prayed for and wonderfully blessed. Words cannot express the greatness and wisdom of the truly wonderful soul-stirring message by the state overseer. At its close a mission offering was taken in the amount of $235.02, and it is to be considered that there are only two self-supporting churches and three missions on the district, with a total membership of ninety-three at the beginning of the church year. Rev. John Longsworth, of Calvin, led with $4.16 per member in the district offering and was winner of a set of Matthew Henry's Commentary, given by the district for the largest offering per member. A good report from all the pastors showed many improvements to the local churches. Among them was the purchase of four rooms of furniture for the Calvin church, also the furniture at Marfrance; LaFrank is building a new church and Ronceverte is building a new parsonage. East Rainelle had a good report from the L.W.W.B. as having raised over $500 in seven weeks, which was used in the interior of the church. We are sure that all present enjoyed the beauty and sound improvement of this church. We wish to say that to our good pastor of only seven weeks, Rev. J. K. DeGolyer, goes much of the praise for this great imporvement.

Sunday morning the entire Sunday School was taught by Mrs. Ethel Cowley, of Garrison. This was an inspiring lesson. It was followed by a message by Rev. L. W. Davis, pastor of Ronceverte. Rev. Honaker, of Beckley, also spoke, bringing to a close the greatest convention, I am sure, that was ever held on the East Rainelle district. — Convention clerk, Mrs. Kathleen Wiseman.

DID YOU KNOW?

"The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

DID YOU KNOW

That the Church of God in Kannapolis, North Carolina, has had one of the greatest years in the history of the church?

Beginning last Assembly year, September 1, 1944, through the month of June, a period of ten months, there have been 341 souls saved, 219 sanctified, 177 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 95 added to the church?

The Kannapolis church has a membership of 547?

DID YOU KNOW

1. That reports prove the Kannapolis church to be one of the greatest tithe-paying churches in the entire movement?

2. That in the past ten months the Kannapolis church has one of the biggest Sunday Schools in the entire movement, with an average of 555 for each Sunday?

3. That the Kannapolis church has one of the most modern Sunday School departments in the entire movement?

4. That there has been a Hurlbut's Teacher-Training Class to train teachers, taught each Sunday for the past three years?

5. The faculty of the Sunday School consists of two superintendents, seven assistants, and forty-four teachers?

6. That the Kannapolis church has, besides the pastor, six full-time workers, consisting of a full-time quartet, clerk, and pianist?

7. That the Kannapolis church has had a daily broadcast every day except Mondays for over three years over station WEGO, Concord, 1410 on your dial, and each Sunday afternoon "Hymn Time," 5:30-6:00; weekdays, 10:15-11:00 o'clock?

8. That the Kannapolis church has just closed their daily vacation Bible school with an enrollment of 420 children?

9. That during this vacation Bible school eighty children were converted?

10. That by the pastor of the church taking two little homeless girls into his home and caring for them, the Kannapolis church responded the first Sunday the pastor had the chil- $6,000 toward an orphanage home? dren at church with a offering of

11. That by obeying God an orphanage home has been established in North Carolina?

12. That Kannapolis was stirred about the homeless children in their midst and a business man donated a house with seven acres of land to house the first orphans, at a cost of $7,000?

13. That the home has increased from seven acres of land to 333 acres of ground, with complete farm equipment and stock?

14. That the orphanage home is now caring for fifteen children?

15. That there are two new homes being erected with a cost of $22,000 each?

16. That the Kannapolis church and city is raising $22,000 to pay for one of these buildings?

17. That there are 130 applications now in the files for admittance into this orphanage?

18. That the Sunday School of the Kannapolis church has given $2,404.80 on the orphanage for the past ten months?

19. That the pastor was elected "Man of the Year" for 1944-45 and was entertained with a banquet by the citizens of the city? He was voted most prominent citizen of the city.

20. That the pastor was honored by Mount Vernon University with the degree of Doctor of Divinity?

21. That the Kannapolis church has had a "revival spirit" the entire year?

And now you know why the smiles and approval of God are upon the Kannapolis church and members, because they are obeying God.— George Weddington, Sunday School superintendent.

Minnesota State Convention Great Success

This is the first time you have heard from Minnesota this year but it isn't the first time the Lord has blessed.

The convention was held at the Minneapolis church July 20-22, in the newly decorated building. Brother H. L. Chesser, Assistant General Overseer, was the main speaker and everyone was blessed and encouraged by his Spirit-filled message and instruction during this love feast.

Not only were delegates there from Minnesota but from Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Ohio. Some of these were graduates and former students of the Northwest Bible School and B. T. S. too. We were happy to have them all with us to help us enjoy the great feast the Lord gave us.

During the mission message, which was being delivered by Brother Chesser, the power fell and people began to come to the altar and give their lives to the cause which we love. Seven were taken into the church before the holy convocation came to a

(Continued on page 14)

close.

There wasn't a chance to take a mission offering in the usual way but people began handing in money during the altar service and when the final count was made it was noted that there was double that of last year, and the orphanage, as well as the aged ministers' offering, was more than that of last year.

Brother Chesser, with his ability to adapt himself to the Northwest, was as his best in message and in song. Sister Chesser was also a great blessing at the piano and in singing.—Convention Reporter.

MISSION PAGE

(Continued from page 9)

tion camp by the Nazis, special prayer was made by the Church of God and he was immediately released. I am sure that the same God is still on the throne. I know that if He could work on a God-hating people like the Nazis, He can work through a God-fearing people like the British authorities. Pray! Pray! Pray!

REVIVALS

(Continued from page 11)

at Sevierville, Tenn. Brother Tiday is seventeen years of age, but he did some wonderful preaching. Several were saved, thirteen baptized in water, and three added to the church. Brother Tiday has a bright future. The Lord is blessing here and the church desires the prayers of all. —Henry N. Shell, pastor, Rt. 2.

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BAXTER, Fla.—Brother and Sister Booth were the evangelists in a three weeks' meeting in which two were saved, two sanctified, three filled with the Holy Ghost, and four added to the church. At the close we had a home-coming day. We love our pastor, Brother E. M. Crosby. Pray for us.—Mrs. Ida Gancy, clerk, Moniac, Ga.

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CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—We have just closed a wonderful revival at Alton Park with Sister Florence Kinsley as evangelist. Forty were saved, twenty-seven sanctified, thirty-three filled with the Holy Ghost, and twenty-four added to the church.

At our home-coming on June 10 we raised $1,581 for church pews. The Lord is blessing our church even though it is young. Every department is growing for the glory of God. We have a broadcast each Saturday night from 10:30 to 11:30 over station WAPO.

Our pastor, Brother John D. Smith, is a wonderful man; we all love him. Pray for us and our church.—Frank Blackwell.

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Murray Hill church has just closed a four weeks' revival conducted by Brother Ralph Boyles. God wonderfully blessed with thirteen filled with the Holy Ghost, six saved, and fifteen added to the church. Thank God for our pastor, Brother Bill Hammond; our church is on fire for God.—Julius Standford, clerk, Poplarville, Miss.

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GALAX, Va.—We are happy to report that God is certainly blessing us here at Cliffview Church of God and especially so for the last four weeks. On April 17 Rev. and Mrs. Carl Morris, Greenville, N. C., and Sister Briley began a revival which lasted for ten days, during which time five were saved, two sanctified, and one filled with the Holy Ghost. Rev. W. I. Head, Christiansburg, Va., then continued for about twelve nights during which time seven were saved and one sanctified. After he left we continued and two more were sanctified and one filled with the Holy Ghost. During the week end of May 19-20 Rev. C. G. Humphreys, of Dublin, Va., was with us and two more were saved and one sanctified. Four were baptized in water and communion service was held that night. The church has been greatly edified and the revival fire still burns.—Carawan and Johnson.

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ST. CHARLES, Va.—We have just closed the greatest revival that the Church of God has ever known in St. Charles, Va. There had been a revival spirit for a long while so we secured Rev. C. D. Henry for our evangelist. The revival lasted three and one-half weeks. Thirty were saved, twenty-five sanctified, twenty filled with the Holy Ghost, twenty-six baptized in water, and forty added to the church.

God is truly blessing under the leadership of our good pastor, Rev. W. T. Morefield. We have built some Sunday School rooms since Brother Morefield came to pastor two years ago and it looks as if we will have to build more. We have one of the best Sunday Schools in the state. God is blessing in every department of the church.—Lee Haynes, clerk.

THOMPSON VALLEY, Va.—We had a wonderful three weeks' revival here at the Church of God in Thompson Valley. Rev. John Murray preached nine nights; Rev. Joe Holcomb preached twelve nights. The saints were drawn closer to God. Seven were reclaimed, four sanctified, four baptized with the Holy Ghost, and seven added to the church. Communion service and feet washing were held on the last night. Offerings given to the evangelist amounted to $79.64. The revival spirit is still on.—Mrs. Fred Meredith, Tazewell, Va.

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UNIONTOWN, Pa.—A very successful revival was conducted by Evangelist James Sheltrown. Many were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost and twelve added to the church.—Brother and Sister J. O. Thomas.

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SALEM, W. Va.—Nine were saved, six sanctified, one filled with the Holy Ghost, and one added to the church in our two weeks' revival which closed April 29, with Brother L. A. Atkins, father of our pastor, as evangelist. Pray for us at Salem. We are progressing both spiritually and financially.—Gemilla Wilson, reporter, 279 W. Main St.

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WASHINGTON, N. C.—We closed a three weeks' revival with Brother Griggs as evangelist, also special singing by Brother and Sister Griggs. Five received the Holy Ghost and several were saved. Pray for us.—T. L. Little, pastor.

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PHENIX CITY, Ala.—We have just closed a good six weeks' revival with Rev. J. C. Bowers and his co-workers, of Miami, Fla. Many souls were saved, some sanctified, some filled with the Holy Ghost, and three added to the church.

We are now building a new brick church here at 1411 9th Avenue. We praise the Lord for our pastor, Rev. C. F. Barrett. Pray for us here.—Ida Middleton, 108 N. R. R. St.

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BOGALUSA, La.—We began a revival the first of March with Sister Daisy Flanagan, of New Orleans. The Lord blessed; the church was built up; saints rejoiced in the Lord. Fourteen were saved, eleven sanctified, eight filled with the Holy Ghost, and eight added to the church. Pray for us here.—Pastor, Mrs. F. W. Alexander, Box 1075.

Come Over and Help Us

Dear Church of God Ministers:

We are like the people were over at Macedonia—we need help here at this place. We have a burden for lost souls and there isn't a church around here which preaches the full gospel.

We are at the present time in a revival and we need help and that bad. If God lays it on you to come, we will do the best by you we can, and God will bless you. We believe there can be a church established here. We have a good arbor. If you are interested, contact us.—Mrs. Edd Jones, Lexington, Tenn.

HERE AND THERE IN THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

(Continued from page 3)

ana as overseer, was standing at the front with a smile on his face, and when we think of the accomplishments there and progress of the work, we would say that he has a right to smile. This is a mission state and there has been some tough sledding, but through the leadership and determination of this young man and the loyalty of the fine band of ministers, members, and friends, they will be able to report about 33⅓ per cent increase in the number of local churches and about 25 per cent increase in membership.

Brother Akins, who has been in the service of our country and was wounded during the battle of the Anzio Beachhead, was appointed Sunday School and Y.P.E. superintendent. This young man, with the courage and zeal manifested in his ministry, has done a great work in Indiana.

MICHIGAN

This convention was considered by many who attended as one of the greatest in the history of the Church. Rev. Houston R. Morehead, state overseer, presented a well-arranged program. The auditorium of the high school was well filled at each service. One of the outstanding features of the convention was that a general spirit of evangelism prevailed throughout the services. Rev. Shelton Brock, pastor of Findlay, Ohio, did some evangelistic preaching and the altar was filled with seekers.

The State of Michigan has made some good progress and they have plans for a great program for the next year.

Rev. Walter Pettit, superintendent of young people's work, presented a very nice program on Saturday afternoon. He has done a very good work for the Sunday School and Y.P.E.

TENNESSEE

The Tennessee convention was a great success. It convened at the North Cleveland Church of God. Rev. James L. Slay, host pastor, with the cooperation of the entertainment committee, provided entertainment for the convention. He was always on the job with his smiles and greetings.

Tennessee reports were outstanding in every department and especially in the increase of membership. Brother U. D. Tidwell, the state overseer, has done a great work and has served the State well as an overseer. I am sure the people of Tennessee appreciate him very much.

The memories of these conventions will linger long in the minds of those who attended. The North Central District is on the upward march.

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MAPLEWOOD, ILLINOIS, SUNDAY SCHOOL

The above picture is that of the Sunday School at Maplewood, Illinois. Rev. J. M. Foshee is pastor.

Books You Should Have

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Smith's Bible Dictionary—New complete concordance, 4000 questions and answers. Contains maps in colors and nearly five hundred engravings. Cloth bound, 786 pages. Price $2.50

Under Cover, by John Roy Carlson. The amazing revelation of how Axis agents and our enemies within are now plotting to destroy the United States. Cloth bound, 521 pages. Price $3.50

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